(c) Recruitment to fill up vacancies is a continuous process and it is done from time to time.

Irregularities and malfunctioning in pantry cars of trains

†1898. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that gross irregularities and malfunctioning in the pantry car of Rajdhani/Superfast Express trains and Vaishali Superfast Express trains run by Indian Railways have been noticed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;.and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to bring in qualitative improvements in the said Superfast Express trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and(b) No gross irregularity and malfunctioning in the pantry car of Rajdhani/Superfast Express trains including Vaishali Superfast Express train have been noticed. However, there were three complaints each for Patna Rajdhani Express and Vaishali Express trains for 2005-06 and four and five complaints respectively for Patna Rajdhani Express and Vaishali Express trains for 2006-07. Actions like, fine in four cases, warning in five cases and counseling in four cases have been taken. Similar actions have been taken in the deficiencies noticed during inspections.

(c) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and zonal railways conduct inspections and surprise checks at stations and on trains with a view to ensure that good quality food is supplied on trains and at stations through railway catering services. Appropriate action is taken **on** the complaints received.

Rail projects

1899. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA:
SHRI T.S. BAJWA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of railway projects have been inordinately delayed, thereby causing escalation of costs of the projects;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.